

JFK bullet test said to back report

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Globe reported Friday that radiation tests of bullet fragments involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy contain nothing to challenge the Warren Commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone.

The test, a neutron activation analysis, was conducted in 1964 by the FBI at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. The results, which have never been published, show the bullet found on the floor of a corridor in the Dallas hospital where Kennedy died was similar in atomic composition to fragments from the wrist of then Texas Gov. John Connally, the Globe story said.

Critics of the Warren Commission report have based part of their argument on the possibility the bullet found in the hospital corridor was not the bullet that wounded Connally.

THE GLOBE said the FBI test, now available to the public, does not contradict the commission's conclusion about the number of bullets fired, that the first shot passed through Kennedy's neck into the back of Connally, hit his rib, emerged under his nipple, smashed through his wrist and lodged in his thigh. It later fell to the floor in the hospital.

In a neutron activation analysis, a sample of metal is bombarded with neutrons and the resulting radiation from the sample shows to a millionth part the amount of each element present in the sample. Different bullets would show different patterns of radiation.

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